Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please cancel claims 8, 19, 29, 31, 36, 41, 42 and 44 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1-7, 12-18, 23-28 and 30 as indicated below (material to be inserted is in **bold and underline**, material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[ ]]):

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A fluid ejection device, comprising:

a die including a plurality of nozzles variously configured according to a predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution, the plurality of nozzles having a target mean drop volume and an actual mean drop volume; and

a controller configured to set the actual mean drop volume provided by the plurality of nozzles to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing selected nozzles, **wherein the controller is configured to set the actual mean drop volume of the die to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing some nozzles of a subset of commonly sized nozzles**.

2. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The fluid ejection device of claim 1, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution is characterized by a random distribution of nozzle sizes.

3. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The fluid ejection device of claim 1, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution is based on a uniform distribution of nozzle sizes.

4. (Currently Amended) The fluid ejection device of claim 1, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution is based on a normal distribution of nozzle sizes.

5. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The fluid ejection device of claim 1, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution is based on a binary distribution of nozzle sizes.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The fluid ejection device of claim 1,~~ **A fluid ejection device, comprising:**

a die including a plurality of nozzles variously configured according to a predetermined distribution, the plurality of nozzles having a target mean drop volume and an actual mean drop volume wherein a subset of the **plurality of** nozzles are sized larger than others of the plurality of nozzles**; and**

a controller configured to set the actual mean drop volume provided by the plurality of nozzles to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing selected nozzles, [[and]] wherein the controller decreases the actual mean drop volume to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing nozzles of the subset.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The fluid ejection device of claim 1,~~ **A fluid ejection device, comprising:**

a die including a plurality of nozzles variously configured according to a predetermined distribution, the plurality of nozzles having a target mean drop volume and an actual mean drop volume wherein a subset of the **plurality of** nozzles are sized smaller than other of the plurality of nozzles**; and**

a controller configured to set the actual mean drop volume provided by the plurality of nozzles to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing selected nozzles, [[and]] wherein the controller increases the actual mean drop volume to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing nozzles of the subset.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The fluid ejection device of claim 1, wherein the plurality of nozzles are arranged on the die so that large nozzles are pseudorandomly intermixed with small nozzles.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A fluid ejection system, comprising:

a die including a plurality of nozzles variously configured according to a predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution, the plurality of nozzles having a target mean drop volume and an actual mean drop volume; and

a control system configured to set the actual mean drop volume provided by the plurality of nozzles to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing selected

nozzles, **wherein the control system is configured to set the actual mean drop volume of the die to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing some nozzles of a subset of commonly sized nozzles**.

13. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The fluid ejection system of claim 12, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution is characterized by a random distribution of nozzle sizes.

14. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The fluid ejection system of claim 12, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution is based on a uniform distribution of nozzle sizes.

15. (Currently Amended) The fluid ejection system of claim 12, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution is based on a normal distribution of nozzle sizes.

16. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The fluid ejection system of claim 12, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution is based on a binary distribution of nozzle sizes.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The fluid ejection system of claim 12,~~ **A fluid ejection system, comprising:**

a die including a plurality of nozzles variously configured according to a predetermined distribution, the plurality of nozzles having a target mean drop volume and an actual mean drop volume wherein a subset of the **plurality of** nozzles are sized larger than others of the plurality of nozzles**; and**

a control system configured to set the actual mean drop volume provided by the plurality of nozzles to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing selected nozzles, [[and]] wherein the control system decreases the actual mean drop volume to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing nozzles of the subset.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The fluid ejection system of claim 12,~~ **A fluid ejection system, comprising:**

a die including a plurality of nozzles variously configured according to a predetermined distribution, the plurality of nozzles having a target mean drop volume and an actual mean drop volume wherein a subset of the **plurality of** nozzles are sized smaller than other of the plurality of nozzles**; and**

a control system configured to set the actual mean drop volume provided by the plurality of nozzles to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing selected nozzles, [[and]] wherein the control system increases the actual mean drop volume to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing nozzles of the subset.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The fluid ejection system of claim 12, wherein the plurality of nozzles are arranged on the die so that large nozzles are pseudorandomly intermixed with small nozzles.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A fluid ejection device, comprising:

a die including a plurality of nozzles configured with various ~~intended~~ sizes, wherein the ~~intended~~ size of each nozzle is selected according to a predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution that defines at least a boundary interval of ~~intended~~ nozzle sizes and a probability distribution of ~~intended~~ nozzle sizes, the plurality of nozzles having a target mean drop volume and an actual mean drop volume; and

a control system configured to set the actual mean drop volume of the die to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing selected nozzles of the die**, wherein the control system is configured to set the actual mean drop volume of the die to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing nozzles in a subinterval of nozzle sizes**.

24. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The fluid ejection device of claim 23, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution defines a uniform probability distribution of ~~intended~~ nozzle sizes.

25. (Currently Amended) The fluid ejection device of claim 23, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution is based on a normal probability distribution of ~~intended~~ nozzle sizes.

26. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The fluid ejection device of claim 23, wherein the predetermined ~~intended~~ distribution defines a binary probability distribution of ~~intended~~ nozzle sizes.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~The fluid ejection device of claim 23,~~ **A fluid ejection device, comprising:**

a die including a plurality of nozzles configured with various sizes, wherein the size of each nozzle is selected according to a predetermined distribution that defines at least a boundary interval of nozzle sizes and a probability distribution of nozzle sizes, the plurality of nozzles having a target mean drop volume and an actual mean drop volume wherein the boundary interval includes a subinterval of large ~~intended~~ nozzle sizes**; and**

a control system configured to set the actual mean drop volume of the die to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing selected nozzles of the die, [[and]] wherein the control system decreases the actual mean drop volume to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing nozzles sized in the subinterval of large ~~intended~~ nozzle sizes.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~The fluid ejection device of claim 23,~~ **A fluid ejection device, comprising:**

a die including a plurality of nozzles configured with various sizes, wherein the size of each nozzle is selected according to a predetermined distribution that defines at least a boundary interval of nozzle sizes and a probability distribution of nozzle sizes, the plurality of nozzles having a target mean drop volume and an

actual mean drop volume wherein the boundary interval includes a subinterval of small ~~intended~~ nozzle sizes; **and**

a control system configured to set the actual mean drop volume of the die to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing selected nozzles of the die, and wherein the control system increases the actual mean drop volume to the target mean drop volume by selectively firing nozzles sized in the subinterval of small ~~intended~~ nozzle sizes.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) The fluid ejection device of claim 23, wherein the plurality of nozzles are arranged on the die so that nozzles having large ~~intended~~ sizes are intermixed with nozzles having small ~~intended~~ sizes.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Cancelled)